

Narrative Summary – August 2019

August 2019 was warmer than normal, averaging 77.3°F, 1.8° above normal (75.8°F). The hottest August (1967) averaged 81.5°F, while the coolest (1964) averaged 69.8°F. There were 20 days in August with maximum temperatures $\geq 90^{\circ}\text{F}$ compared to an August normal of 18 days. There have been 56 days this year with maximum temperatures $\geq 90^{\circ}\text{F}$ compared to a normal (through August) of 50 days. There were 3 days in August with maximum temperatures $\geq 100^{\circ}\text{F}$ compared to an August normal of 5 days. There have been 6 days this summer (June – August) with maximum temperatures $\geq 100^{\circ}\text{F}$ compared to a normal of 13 days. The following temperature record was established during August 2019:

<u>Date</u>	<u>Category</u>	<u>New Record</u>	<u>Old Record</u>	<u>Year</u>
11	Low Maximum	77	79	1983

Precipitation for August 2019 totaled 2.35 inches, 1,306% of normal (0.18 inches). This set a record for the wettest August ever. The previous August record (1977) was 1.36 inches. This also makes Aug 2019 the 9th wettest for any month of the year. The 2.21 inches received on Aug 10-11 set an all-time record for 24-hour rainfall. The previous 24-hour rainfall record (October 1957) was 1.91 inches. All-time records were also set (on August 11) for 1-hour amount (0.92 inches) and 2-hour amount (1.15 inches). This rain event included a 15-minute measurement of 0.35 inches! The driest August (1955 and 1988) received no precipitation. Total precipitation for 2019 (through August) is 7.90 inches, 189% of normal (4.19 inches). This is the most precipitation on record for the January through August period. The previous record (January through August of 1950) was 7.46 inches..

The average wind speed for August 2019 was 7.9 miles per hour (mph), which was 0.1 mph below normal (8.0 mph). The windiest August (1996) averaged 9.5 mph, while the August with the lightest winds (1956) averaged 6.0 mph. The peak gust for August 2019 was from the west-southwest at 48 mph on August 21. The record wind gust for August was 66 mph in 1961.

The summer season of 2019 (June - August) was slightly warmer than normal, averaging 74.8°F, 0.6° above normal (74.2°F). The coolest summer (1980) averaged 70.2°F. The warmest summer (2015) averaged 79.4°F. The summer's highest maximum temperature was 106°F on August 7. The highest maximum temperature ever recorded at the Hanford Meteorology Station was 113°F (recorded on August 4, 1961, July 13, 2002, and July 23, 2006). Summer season precipitation for 2019 totaled 3.01 inches, 327% of normal (0.92 inch). This makes the summer of 2019 the wettest on record. The previous wettest summer (1950) was 2.99 inches. The driest (1973) received only 0.03 inch.

The monthly climatological data summaries, as well as other information, are available on the Internet. Address: <http://www.hanford.gov/page.cfm/hms>

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Note: The data in this summary pertain specifically to the Hanford Meteorology Station (HMS), which is located approximately 25 miles northwest of Richland, WA. No attempt should be made to infer meteorological conditions at other locations from these data.